

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
IO-13 /079 W  
-----115225 171907Z /41

R 170325Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7790  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
USLO PEKING

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E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TW  
SUBJECT: VICE MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS

BEGIN SUMMARY. VICE MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS CONFIRMED  
BY THE NEW CABINET ON JUNE 8 REFLECT THE SAME CAUTIOUS  
BUREAUCRATIC APPROACH REPRESENTED BY CABINET APPOINT-  
MENTS (REF TAIPEI 03405). AGAIN THERE ARE NO NEW  
FACES. THE SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL VICE MINISTERIAL  
APPOINTMENTS WERE EITHER RETAINED BY INCUMBENTS OR,  
IN THE CASE OF EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC MINISTRIES, FILLED  
BY ADMINISTRATIVE VICE MINISTERS WHO MOVED UP WHEN  
INCUMBENT POLITICAL VICE MINISTERS BECAME MINISTERS.  
ALL EIGHT POLITICAL VICE MINISTERS AND TWO OVERSEAS  
CHINESE AFFAIRS COMMISSION VICE CHAIRMEN ARE MAINLANDERS.  
PROMOTIONS VIA ESTABLISHED ROUTES ARE SEEN BY SOME  
AS ENCOURAGING TO LOWER LEVEL OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, HAVE  
RESULTED IN NO NEW BLOOD IN THE MINISTRIES. END SUMMARY.  
1. THE FOLLOWING POLITICAL VICE MINISTERS (PVM) WERE  
RETAINED IN THEIR PREVIOUS POSITIONS:

INTERIOR PVM LIU CHAO-T'EN (57)  
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FOREIGN AFFAIRS PVM YANG HSI-K'UN (65)

FINANCE PVM TU CHUN-HENG (67)

JUSTICE PVM AN K'UEI-SHU (66)

COMMUNICATIONS PVM CH'EN SHU-HSI (67)

OVERSEAS CHINESE AFFAIRS  
COMMISSION VICE CHAIRMAN  
ALSO RETAINED K'O SHU-PAO (58)

2. NEW APPOINTMENTS AS POLITICAL VICE MINISTERS WERE:

DEFENSE DEPUTY MINISTER GEN. CHENG WEI-YUAN (65)  
- (REPORTED REFTEL FORMER CINC  
- TAIWAN GARRISON COMMAND)

EDUCATION PVM CH'EN LU-AN (40) FORMER  
- ADMINISTRATIVE VICE MINISTER  
- OF EDUCATION. (ELDEST SON OF  
- FORMER VICE PRESIDENT CH'EN  
- CH'ENG)

ECONOMIC PVM WANG I-TING (58) FORMER  
- ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATIVE  
- VICE MINISTER

OVERSEAS CHINESE AFFAIRS  
COMMISSION VICE CHAIRMAN CHU CHI-HSI (61) (SUCCEEDS  
- CHANG TSUNG-LIA G)

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COMMENT: BUSINESS AS USUAL, ALTHOUGH TWO APPOINTMENTS ARE NOTEWORTHY: CH'EN LU-AN IS CONSIDERED AN ABLE MAN WITH GOOD BACKGROUND IN EDUCATION. MUCH YOUNGER THAN OTHER PVMS, CH'EN HAS HAD A RAPID RISE FOLLOWING MIT SCHOOLING AND COMPLETION OF HIS DOCTORATE AT NEW YORK STATE UNIVERSITY. HE HAS HAD EXPERIENCE AS AN ENGINEER, PROFESSOR, PRESIDENT OF MING CHIH INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND NATIONAL TAIWAN COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, FOLLOWED BY DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR AT MOE (WHERE HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPORTANT DECISION TO SWITCH EDUCATIONAL EMPHASIS FROM MAINLY ACADEMIC TO MAINLY VOCATIONAL STUDIES), AND PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENT AS MOE ADMINISTRATIVE VICE MINISTER WHICH HE HELD FOR ONLY A YEAR. HE IS KNOWN FOR HIS COMPETENCE AND EFFECTIVE WORK STYLE AS WELL AS BEING THE ELDEST SON OF FORMER VICE PRESIDENT CH'EN CH'ENG.

GENERAL CHENG WEI-YUAN IS ALSO HIGHLY REGARDED AND CONSIDERED A MAN ON THE RISE. A SENIOR OFFICER WITH CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE, CHENG WAS TRAINED AT INFANTRY SCHOOL IN ITALY AND ARMY COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF SCHOOL IN THE U.S. FOLLOWING GRADUATION FROM THE

EIGHTH CLASS OF THE CENTRAL MILITARY ACADEMY. HE HAS  
HELD POSITION AS CHIEF OF STAFF, COMMANDANT OF THE  
MARINE CORPS, VICE CINC OF ARMY, AND CINC OF COMBINED  
SERVICES FORCES AND (MOST RECENTLY) TAIWAN GARRISON  
COMMAND. IT IS WIDELY HELD THAT HIS APPOINTMENT  
AS DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER MARKS HIM TO REPLACE  
AGING DEFENSE MINISTER KAO K'UEI-YUAN, PROBABLY WITHIN  
A FEW YEARS. UNGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CABINET, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Subject:** VICE MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS BEGIN SUMMARY. VICE MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS CONFIRMED BY THE NEW CABINET ON JUNE 8 REFLECT THE SAME CAUT  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PINT, TW  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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